

programs. Thanks to Northeastern's leadership, universities in Africa and Asia now have significant programs in this important field.

Northeastern also excels in numerous academic fields. It has an outstanding engineering faculty, and excellent engineering centers in electromagnetics, communications, and digital signal processing. With its newly created graduate program in Applied Science and Engineering, Northeastern is poised to engage in breakthrough scientific research.

Northeastern is also a leader in creating partnerships with community organizations, educators, and businesses to deal with critical issues such as domestic violence and women's health. In 1990, Professor Clare Dalton founded the Domestic Violence Institute which works with community agencies to protect women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Recently, the Institute's initiatives were enhanced by a three-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for this critically important work.

Northeastern's first hundred years have been filled with outstanding accomplishments and contributions to our state, our country, and the world. I am sure that in the years ahead, Northeastern will continue this proud tradition of excellence, and I congratulate the university on this auspicious centennial anniversary.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear at this point in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 183) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 183

Whereas on October 16, 1997, Northeastern University marked the beginning of its centennial celebration;

Whereas Northeastern University began providing higher education in conjunction with the Boston Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in 1898;

Whereas Northeastern University currently enrolls over 27,000 full time students and boasts an alumni in excess of 137,000 individuals;

Whereas Northeastern University has attained a national reputation for cooperative education that prepares students to transition successfully into the workplace;

Whereas Northeastern University provides access to higher education for students from all backgrounds;

Whereas Northeastern University has achieved growing recognition as a major research institution; and

Whereas the Senate supports Northeastern University's efforts to offer exceptional educational opportunities to individuals from throughout the world: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and congratulates Northeastern University as an outstanding edu-

cational institution that has produced exceptional alumni during the past 100 years and gives every indication of doing so for the next 100 years; and

(2) wishes Northeastern University a successful and memorable centennial celebration.

#### ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1998

Mr. LOTT. I now ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in adjournment until 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 26, and immediately following the prayer the routine requests through the morning hour be granted and there then be a period for morning business until 11 a.m. with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees for debate prior to the cloture votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. LOTT. Tomorrow morning there will be 1 hour of morning business, then, to be followed by two consecutive cloture votes. The first cloture vote will begin at approximately 11 a.m. and will be on the McCain-Feingold amendment, to be followed by a cloture vote on the underlying bill, S. 1663. All Senators should be prepared for these two consecutive cloture votes at approximately 11 a.m.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. LOTT. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order following the remarks of Senator DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LOTT. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader.

#### THE EVOLVING SITUATION IN IRAQ

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I want to address the evolving situation relating to Iraq and talk briefly about the circumstances surrounding the agreement reached between Secretary General Annan and Iraq as we know them now. I am concerned about some of the comments made in the media and on the floor about the situation in Iraq. I think it is important to review the situation as the President, Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, National Security Adviser and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff have laid out in the last 24 hours.

First, with respect to what we are seeking, from the outset of this crisis the fundamental goal of the United States has been very simple. The goal has simply been to assure that UNSCOM has unconditional and unfet-

tered access to all suspect sites as called for in the U.N. Security Council resolutions. Period; that's it. All we needed was simply an opportunity to visit sites that we think are suspect.

We were denied that, which triggered this whole affair, beginning, as everyone now knows, several months ago. Diplomacy, backed by the threat to use overwhelming force if required, has moved us forward and closer to achieving that goal. There can be no doubt that the presence of a military force of the magnitude that is currently in the gulf had everything to do with the fact that we now have an agreement. General Secretary Annan has said that. Others have noted it. There is no question that the combination of diplomacy and military force gave us the opportunity to bring about this agreement over the last 72 hours.

Iraq precipitated this crisis, as we all know, by trying to avoid its obligations under the Security Council resolutions. It attempted to dictate to the international community where UNSCOM could hold inspections, the manner in which they could be conducted, and the length of time that they would continue. Iraq's effort has failed. We were clear about what we were seeking: Unfettered access. Iraq objected. Iraq obfuscated. Iraq clearly was at fault in not allowing access to the sites in question. Diplomacy was used, force backed up that diplomacy, and the results are now in hand.

Let's look at what we have achieved with this agreement. The government of Iraq has made a written commitment to provide immediate, unrestricted, unconditional access for the UNSCOM inspectors to all suspected sites. So, regardless of the rhetoric, regardless of whether it was framed in exactly the way we might have it framed, what matters is the bottom line. What matters is what is now to be the order. And the order is very clear. The order is to provide immediate, unrestricted, unconditional access for inspectors to all suspected sites. If fully implemented, this commitment will allow UNSCOM to fulfill its mission: First, to find and destroy all of Iraq's chemical, biological and nuclear weapons; second, to find and destroy the missiles that could deliver these weapons; and, third, to institute a system for long-term monitoring to make sure Iraq doesn't do it again.

This commitment applies to all sites anywhere in the country, including eight so-called "Presidential Sites" that have now been precisely delineated, as well as the so-called sensitive sites that until now Iraq has tried to claim were off limits to UNSCOM. Any and all of these sites are subject to repeat visits. There are no deadlines to complete the work. In short, for the first time Iraq has committed explicitly to open every site throughout the country to weapons inspectors. Again, that has been our bottom line. That will continue to be our bottom line. And we now have it in writing that Iraq will agree.